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THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT, G. A. R.

The veterans of the civil war living in the east are contemplating with considerable satisfaction the fact that the national encampment is to be held this year at a more accessible and inviting point for them.
Rochester, N. Y., is making careful preparations for the meeting of the civil war veterans there during the week of 21st to 26th of August, and the city expects to take care of 150,000 visitors. The city has a dozen big halls and places where the guests can be housed and the housing accommodations are so extensive that it is expected not a tent will be required.
Rochester has splendid schools, one or two fine colleges, and it is a railroad center with half a dozen trunk lines centering there and trolley lines galore, with a prosperous trolley line 70 miles long coming to it all the way from Auburn and the large city of Syracuse; and a mammoth car ferry in operation between that city and Canada, which is connected with the Grand Trunk system and the Canadian railroad to the north.
It looks as if this year's national encampment at Rochester would be made memorable by virtue of the large attendance and the liberal way in which the old soldiers are to be entertained.

OFF FOR THE TEXAN BORDER.

The sudden movement of the navy and army to the eastern borders of Mexico is an indication that the rebellion in the country of Diaz is more serious than was apprehended.
The object of the government is, doubtless, to keep the Mexican insurgents from using any part of the territory of the United States to pass through or to camp upon. It means a heavy policing of the Texan border and the protection of American ranchers from the raids which are likely to result from conditions of war so near.
There doesn't appear to be anything in the movement but wise precaution, since it is better to prevent incursions upon American territory than it is to leave Americans living along the line defenseless.
It is very natural for insurgents to seek refuge from the regular army on this side of the line; and the temptation is intense for regular forces to pursue them.
The action of the government is in no way a menace to Mexican interests and it is difficult to see why it should be regarded as meddlingness or in any way an interference in the affairs of our neighbors.

BALLINGER RETIRES IN GOOD FORM.

Even the enemies of Secretary Ballinger must admit that he retired from Taft's cabinet in good form, since he carried with him high evidences of regard and high commendation for his services to his country from the President.
The Bulletin has regarded Secretary Ballinger as a scandal upon the administration and it believes that it is well for the party that he saw the light and headed it. We have no doubt he has been painted blacker than he is.
The New York Tribune, in commenting upon Secretary Ballinger's retiring, says:
"The new secretary will carry out the same policies that Mr. Ballinger carried out, for the administration's conservation programme is just what it has always been. If Mr. Fisher receives the commendation of Mr. Ballinger's critics for doing in office exactly what Mr. Ballinger did, the whole Ballinger conspiracy will be completely exposed as one of personal persecution."
It appears to The Bulletin that Mr. Fisher may carry out the governmental policies so different from Mr. Ballinger that he will not excite suspicion or animosity. A difference in men and methods of enforcing policies often makes all the difference in the world. We do not see how Mr. Fisher's ability to make the policies seem less suspicious or offensive can be a vindication of Secretary Ballinger, for it will certainly mark the superiority of Fisher over Ballinger and make clearer his predecessor's unfitness.

GOV. BALDWIN'S CAUTIONARY WORDS.

The people approve of the cautionary words of Governor Baldwin with reference to legislative appropriations. It is to the credit of no administration to make deficits, although it must be conceded that circumstances or emergencies, now and then, in state and national affairs, make them tolerable.
The comptroller's figures show that we have made deficits enough and that the time has come to call a halt. "Those who aver that a debt is a blessing are usually men who are not in a financial condition to realize the burden of it."
The temptation to expend state moneys to win political favor is great and it is yielded to excessively too often by both parties. There are many worthy objects which call for action which can wait. The thing to be carefully considered is the appropriations which from their nature foreshadow permanent increases of the annual expenses. These are what result in tax burdens and undermine political parties.
Governor Baldwin's conservatism along these lines is commendable and should be heeded.
The Portland, Me., Express says: "Magazine reproductions of famous paintings give about as much idea of the beauties of the original as a bottle of milk gives an idea of a cow."
King Manuel of Portugal is said to have become infatuated with another French actress, which means that an allowance of \$40,000 a year would not be too much.
The people who reform every time they are sick will never win till they become chronic invalids.

NEW LONDON'S DEEP HARBOR.

Norwich shares in the feeling that New London's harbor should be made the most of by the state and by the government.
The idea of Mayor Mahan that the state should take a financial interest in making the most of it, is the sane opinion of a foresighted and practical man.
The development of New London harbor as a terminal for the great foreign liners means much to the entire state and more to eastern Connecticut.
The Hartford Times says: "The New London delegation declared to the New York steamboat managers that within a year the great ocean carriers could be steaming into that city, and if the companies wished to avail themselves of the advantages which their city afforded, now was the time to say so. The steamship representatives were informed that within twelve months the facilities for handling the largest of the vessels could be provided, and it was mentioned just by way of emphasizing the confidence that the New Londoners felt in making the statement, that the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad Co., the Grand Trunk and the Central Vermont stood ready to back the enterprise."
"The New Londoners told the steamship people that terminal facilities for the 900-foot vessel would be guaranteed. The agents listened with apparent conviction to the offer of our sister city, which has made out a splendid case for itself. The importance to the Sound city of the arrangement cannot be over-estimated. New London has long been an important port. It is conveniently situated and offers many natural advantages. The big railroad over which Mr. Mellen exercises so careful management would be directly benefited in large measure by the landing of the vessels of the transatlantic lines, and with his backing there ought to be little doubt of the outcome. It is only natural, however, that the companies should wish to remain in or nearer New York, if possible. But the definite assurance that New London can take care of the vessels within a year, doubtless, will prove a big factor in the final determination."
The spirit of New London in 1911 seems to be to make the most of all her advantages, and it must be conceded that she has many, and that her people are cherishing a get-together and stay-together spirit which tells for progress. Those who think New London is dreaming may be surprised to find she is working with a likelihood of winning.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Boston thinks that a three-million bid for the great ocean leviathans to dock there is not too much.

The hen fanciers of the country are still trying to decide whether the short or the long toed birds are the best layers.

Now that Canada sees Uncle Sam's troops bound for Mexico, she must be impressed that he is about to annex Diaz land.

Any one who thinks Norwich is slow will correct his views when he sees our automobiles spinning through the business streets.

Happy thought for today: The Sunday school boy who said Lot's wife earned her salt demonstrated the value of a keen perception.

The Boston Transcript says: "Recent town elections make one inquire if New England isn't drying up in more senses than one."

Dr. Anna Shaw wants to be a United States senator. It would not be surprising if she could tell stories as well as Chauncey Depew.

A bright paragraph has discovered that if the country can get along without congress, congress cannot get along without the country.

When it comes to presidential hopes and possibilities, it is pointed out that a special session of congress never yet helped the majority party.

Since Brander Matthews is an earnest advocate of reform spelling, he is told that he might drop one t from his name without impairing it.

If the man who professes to be aiming to do right makes a bull's eye once in a while, stock is taken in his sincerity. He couldn't expect more.

Russia knows how to name the harlem skirt, for she calls it a "jupeuclette." It might have had a run in this country had this name come first.

When a woman who sues for \$100,000 for breach of promise thinks because she did not get it the jury did, how will she be convinced to the contrary?

President Taft's red necktie is exciting the country. The inquiry is already being made if the red necktie is likely to become a campaign badge in 1912.

If Taft pardons Morse there are a great many of his admirers who will put down an indelible mark against him. It is easier to forgive some things than others.

The Montreal Star asks: "Will the new congress have the frankness to introduce their reciprocity bill under the caption—'A Bill to Prepare to Annex Canada?'"

Baldwin a Winner.
The trade that Governor Baldwin has effected by which he secures the ratification of the senate for Burton Mansfield as insurance commissioner shows that he is an able manipulator. This man, who was supposed to be a theorist, not capable of dealing with shrewd leaders, has developed suddenly into one of the most astute politicians of the state.

He fathoms men's motives with a prescience that is remarkable and thus knowing what they wish of him before he commits himself, he is in a position to dictate. Democratic bosses who thought he would be easily influenced, as well as republicans who believed they could successfully oppose him, have practically agreed that he has the whip hand and that his nominations and proposals cannot be successfully combatted without a political reaction upon themselves that may be disastrous.

The governor declares that he is a democrat and that in so far as possible his appointments will be democrats and from that position the senators have been unable to budge him. He prevents opposition to Mansfield by giving certain leaders Hale as railroad commissioner, although this name Hale is looked upon by wise republicans as more of a democrat than a republican.

Mr. Baldwin has demonstrated his sagacity and to the lookers on it would appear that he is going to have things pretty much his own way.—Meriden Journal

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT

Answers to Bulletin's Inquiries From Burlington and Fort Dodge

MEN OF EQUAL INTELLIGENCE VARY

**Burlington Has No Recall—Methods Generally Improved
Fort Dodge in Its Juvenility—Has Made No Record.**

Burlington, Iowa. Population 24,324.
I. a. Is any political designation allowed after the names of candidates on the ballot?
No.
b. Has the activity of parties in selfishly seeking the election of their own members been diminished?
Yes. Elections non-partisan.
c. In general, are the elections cleaner?
Conditions in Burlington have never been bad as a rule. The absence of partisan motives helps for clean elections under the commission plan.
No.
II. a. Are men of higher character and greater ability induced to become candidates for office?
Only had one election, less than a year ago; too new an experience to definitely answer that question. In some respects there has been an improvement in personnel.
No.
b. Are your aldermen chosen as specialists—that is, for special knowledge of finance, of highways, of building, or departmental work in charities, fire department, water works, etc.?
We elect four councilmen and one mayor, and they assign to each other certain departments of the city government.
No.
III. a. Is there greater and more direct responsibility upon members of the municipal council?
Yes; very much greater, and to advantage.
No.
b. Are appointments made by them (more than before) on the grounds of fitness rather than political strength?
Yes. Their appointments were excellent and free from partisanship.
No.
c. Does the administration in its methods resemble more than the old form the business administration of some large industry?
Yes, decidedly so.
No.
IV. a. Are the salaries of the mayor

and aldermen larger under this form than before?
Yes; but not large enough to attract the highest grade of business talent.
Yes.
b. Has there been greater resulting economy in the administration of the several departments?
Yes; better oversight—more personal responsibility.
No.
c. Does each member of the municipal council give his full time to the work of administration?
Yes—practically.
No.
d. Has the financial standing of the city been improved?
Yes. Floating debt funded—no new indebtedness incurred. Current expenses now on cash basis.
No.
V. In general, is the new form of government cleaner than political influence, more business-like in administration, more effectively organized, more progressive, more soundly economical?
Yes.
No.
VI. a. What per cent. of voters is required to gain a recall, and is it effective?
We have had no recall.
b. Are the public utilities—water, gas and electric lighting plants—owned by the city, and are they inventoried annually, and a balance sheet published, as is the custom of corporations owning such plants?
Not owned by city. We have good service by private corporations. But city owns some stock in water company, with view to ultimate ownership.
Fort Dodge, Iowa. Population 15,543.
As yet Fort Dodge has had no experience with the method, although the voters have ordered the commission plan adopted.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Particular About Buckwheat Straw.

Mr. Editor: The people of Leffingwell have had much amusement lately concerning some of the water men. Several weeks ago Mr. Newlands with Dr. Lewis and two other men connected with the business were through the place in interest of the Trading Cove brook water. They stopped at the residence of C. Leland Palmer, Mr. Lewis was inquiring about one thing and another. They happened to be standing near the front of the barn, and Mr. Newlands pointed to a heap of substance which he (a city man) thought was manure, but was nothing but a small heap of buckwheat straw, and asked Mr. Palmer how often he moved his manure and Mr. Palmer told him once and about times twice a year. The manure from the barn is put back of the barn and could not be seen from front of the barn where the men stood.
This mistake of Mr. Newlands' has amused the people of Leffingwell intensely. It was also published in The Bulletin that Mr. Palmer's manure heap was situated 200 feet from the brook, but could be made all right by covering it in a rain, when it is only buckwheat straw.
Since the investigation of the watershed of the Trading Cove brook, the people of Leffingwell have had no end of amusement as they have learned the extreme difficulty found in ascertaining the difference between a heap of manure and a heap of buckwheat straw.
P. R. M.
Leffingwelltown, March 5, 1911.

Secretary Fisher.

The gentleman who by President Taft's appointment succeeded Gifford Pinchot as chief forester was one of Gifford Pinchot's closest friends. The gentleman who by President Taft's appointment now succeeds Mr. Ballinger as secretary of the interior—Walter Fisher of Chicago—is another of Gifford Pinchot's closest friends. "Anyone who knows aught of Chicago and its hard fight for relief from traction tyrannies and other miserable conditions," said the Boston Transcript last evening, "knows of Walter Fisher. His record is one of the finest and cleanest in the history of American municipalities. Not only has he been honest and straight, but he has shown extraordinary intellectual capacity. He is one of the powerful, earnest and enlightened leaders of America. There will be no more scandals involving the head of the interior department." Gifford Pinchot himself has quite recently borne public testimony to the intelligence and vigilance with which President Taft stands guard over the natural resources—the people's patrimony. The weather's certainly clearing.—Hartford Courant.

Why He Drank Hemlock.

J. Ham Lewis of Chicago, the most beautiful Spanish War veteran on earth, says that Socrates also had pink whiskers.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

The census returns showed that in Nevada there was only seven-tenths of a man to the square mile.

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